



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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July 1, 2008

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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JUL 01 2008

Dear Supervisors:

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION
OF REWARD FUNDS IN THE MATTER OF THE
BEATING OF A ROWLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE OFFICER
(ALL DISTRICTS)
(3-VOTE)

SUBJECT

Approval of this recommendation will authorize the Executive Officer of the Board to distribute reward funds to the individuals who provided information to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department that led to the conviction of four juveniles responsible for the assault of a Rowland Unified School District Police Officer while he was investigating a school burglary at Jellick Elementary School in Rowland Heights on August 15, 2006.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in amount of \$5,000 to Claimant No. 1 and \$5,000 to Claimant No. 2 for a total amount of \$10,000, to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to the individuals who provided information to law enforcement that led to the conviction of four juveniles responsible for the assault of a Rowland Unified School District Police Officer while he was investigating a school burglary at Jellick Elementary School in Rowland Heights on August 15, 2006.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On August 22, 2006, your Board offered a \$10,000 reward on a joint motion of Supervisors Knabe and Molina, relating to the beating assault of a Rowland Unified School District Police Officer while he was investigating a school burglary at Jellick Elementary School in Rowland Heights on August 15, 2006. The filing period to submit a claim to the Executive Office for the reward money expired on January 19, 2007. In accordance with provisions of the County Code, Title 4 – Revenue and Finance relating to rewards, your Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

A panel of individuals representing the Sheriff, Chief Executive Officer, County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board met and reviewed the claim filed for the reward funds. The panel is recommending that the reward funds in total amount of \$10,000 be awarded as follows: \$5,000 to Claimant No. 1 and \$5,000 to Claimant No. 2.

The chronological events in this case are as follows:

- On August 15, 2006 a Rowland Unified School District Police Officer was beaten with an aluminum baseball bat while he was investigating a burglary at Jellick Elementary School in Rowland Heights.
- On August 22, 2006 the Board, on a joint motion by Supervisors Knabe and Molina, approved the establishment of a \$10,000 reward to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement in the investigation of the case.
- On November 15, 2006 (Claimant No. 1) and on January 11, 2007 (Claimant No. 2), filed claims with the Executive Office of the Board. Both Claimants indicated that on August 23, 2006, contact was made with Detective Al Garcia of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Walnut Station, and at the request of Detective Garcia claimants were asked to report to the Station to view video evidence. Upon review of the video Claimants were able to identify two subjects, who were students at Alvarado Intermediate School during the 2005-06 school year.

- During the course of his investigation Detective Al Garcia was able to identify and arrest a total of four juveniles responsible for the assault of a Rowland Unified School District Police Officer while he was investigating a school burglary at Jellick Elementary School in Rowland Heights. Three juveniles were arrested on August 24, 2006 and the fourth juvenile arrested on August 25, 2006. All of the juveniles were charged with burglary, vandalism, assault on a peace officer and mayhem.
- Convictions and sentencing took place for two of the juveniles October 2, 2007 and two additional juveniles on January 22, 2008. Three of the juveniles were convicted of burglary and vandalism and sentenced to probation. The fourth juvenile was sentenced to eight years in custody.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement, which could lead to the arrest and/or conviction of the individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life to residents of Los Angeles County by removing such individuals from the community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$2,000 from each member's account.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code establishing procedures for offering cash rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

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The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 - Revenue and Finance relating to rewards; and specifically Section 4.50.010B which states, "conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime shall be required for payment of a reward unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of conviction due to the death or incapacity of such person or persons."

The Notice of Reward Offered was posted on the Board of Supervisors' web site. In addition, copies were provided to the Alhambra Police Department.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no impact on current County services.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sachi A. Hamai".

SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

R:\Reward Letters\Reward letter regarding Jellick Elementary School.doc

c: Sheriff
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Acting Auditor-Controller